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responsibilities out to these political subdivisions and that's the role of subdivisions. Those who were in the Army know that the general is not going to carry a rifle. They have companies, platoons, squads. Then when you get up, Senator Hilgert could tell you about these armies and these battalions and so forth. You have a structure where that which sits at the top is supreme and it parcels out things below it. It delegates responsibilities, but it holds every entity accountable and that is what the state does. The state is the supervisor. The state in a sense is the creator and can also be the destroyer. It is not sensible to try to put these counties on a par with the state. All of this recent political talk about unfunded mandates shows a lack of understanding of the role and function of government. The state is supreme. All other entities except for the federal government have to take low to the state. The U.S. Constitution recognizes states. This was designed to be a government that had a centralized supreme governmental structure to which various powers were delegated by the individual states. Then you have the states themselves and some people talk about state sovereignty, but there is no such thing. Sovereignty cannot be divided. There are not 50 independent countries within what constitutes the United States.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: There are states, each of which individually, all of which collectively are subordinate to the federal government. The U.S. Constitution created the government in that fashion and that is why it will say that a law of the federal government is supreme, any state constitution or law to the contrary notwithstanding. They've got to stand aside. And at the state level, there can be an analogy to the federal government. These political subdivisions are subordinate to and inferior to the state.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers, you may proceed.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Madam President. The role of the state is to see that the interests and the welfare of the citizens are looked after. None of these political subdivisions should be put on anything approaching a par with the state. And I think it is a mistake for members of the Legislature to